

**June 2019 Cesky Hlas Report**  
**Brazos Valley Czech Heritage Society**  
**By Marie Dulak**

**January 2019 Chapter Meeting**

On January 13<sup>th</sup> Brazos Valley Czech Heritage Society (BVCHS) held its first meeting of 2019. Twenty-one members were in attendance. President E.J. Biskup called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance and Glen Chmelar led us in prayer. Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were presented and approved by the members. Committee chair reports were given.

Following the committee reports the 2019-2020 BVCHS officers were installed by Nomination Committee Chair, John Moravec. The new officers are President: E.J. Biskup; Vice-President: Frank Dulak; Secretary: Cheryl Wenck; Treasurer: Jo Ann Zaeske and Reporter: Marie Dulak



E.J. Biskup, Frank Dulak, Cheryl Wenck, Jo Ann Zaeske and Marie Dulak

A monetary donation has been made by members John and Sandy Matush towards the establishment of another scholarship to be given by the BVCHS chapter. The Matush Czech Heritage Scholarship will be awarded to a deserving college student that is a member of BVCHS or related to a member



John & Sandy Matush, E.J. Biskup, Jo Ann Zaeske and Cheryl Wenck.

Information on the upcoming State Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant and CHS state meeting hosted by BVCHS on February 16, 2019 was presented and discussed. E.J. Biskup announced BVCHS will be represented by Zoe Peterek of College Station as the Chapter Queen contestant. Grace Moravec of Bryan will be her Little Czech Sister. A silent auction and raffle will be held to benefit the chapter scholarship fund. Members asked to assist with set up on Friday and the pageant on Saturday.

January and February birthdays were recognized.

Following the adjournment of the meeting a 50/50 drawing was held and refreshments were enjoyed by the members.

## **Czech Language Class**

The Czech Language Class sponsored by BVCHS in conjunction with the Czech Educational Foundation of Texas (CEFT) was held from January 21 to May 6, 2019. The instructor was Tereza Walsbergerová of Brno, Czech Republic who attends Masaryk University in Brno. Tereza is the CEFT William J. Hlavinka fellow at Texas A&M University College of Liberal Arts. The class instruction was on conversational Czech, Czech culture and traditions. .



## **2019 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant and CHS State Meeting**

After all the planning, BVCHS was prepared to host the 2019 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant and CHS State Meeting on February 16, 2019. Preparation began on Friday with hall decorations; stage, raffle, silent auction, vendor, queen pageant displays and table setup; and queen contestants' pageant rehearsal.

Also on Friday evening, Bruno Shimek, BVCHS member, started his preparation for the kolaches to be served Saturday morning. Bruno, John Moravec, Fred Wenck and Lorraine Roesler worked diligently to have kolaches warm and ready for the attendees. Thanks to these members for giving their time for the well enjoyed pastries.



Pictured: Bruno Shimek, Lorraine Roesler, John Moravec and Fred Wenck.

Following Opening Ceremonies the 2019 Queen Pageant competition began. Brazos Valley CHS was represented by Zoe Peterek of College Station and her Little Czech Sister, Grace Moravec of Bryan. Lydia Pustejovsky of Abbott represented the McLennan-Hill Chapter with her Little Czech Sister Allison

Pustejovsky. Upon completion of contestant competition in personal and on stage interviews, kroj modeling and talent presentation, the judges selection of the 2019 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen was Lydia Pustejovsky.

During the day a raffle of two beverage baskets and an Easter yard decoration, as well as a silent auction were held to benefit the BVCHS Scholarship fund.

### **March 2019 Meeting**

The March membership meeting was held March 17, 2019 at the St. Joseph Parish Activity Center (PAC) with sixteen members and one guest present. A presentation by Teresa Walsbergerova of Brno, Czech Republic and Czech Educational Foundation of Texas (CEFT) William J. Hlavinka fellow at Texas A&M University College of Liberal Arts was enjoyed by the members. Tereza's presentation was about her life and family in the Czech Republic, as well as her experiences at A&M and in Texas. Following the presentation Secretary's, Treasurer's and committee chair reports were given. The May meeting scholarship presentation was discussed and applications were available for members. March and April birthdays were recognized and a 50/50 drawing was held. Following the adjournment of the meeting, the members enjoyed refreshments and socializing.

### **Spring Baking Class**

The Spring Baking Class sponsored by BVCHS was held on April 6, 2019 at the St. Joseph PAC. The seven attendees were instructed on preparing apple strudel (jablkový závin), poppyseed rolls (makovník), dinner rolls (rohlíky) and kolache. The instructors for the class were Stan Vitha and Marie Dulak, BVCHS members. After all the preparation and baking, the participants had pastries to take home and share with their family.



### **May 2019 Meeting**

BVCHS' May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting was held at C&J Barbeque in Bryan, Texas. The meeting was called to order by President E.J. Biskup followed by the opening prayer – "Our Czech Heritage" ("Naše české dědictví"), Pledge of Allegiance and introductions of guests. Thirty-four members and eleven guests were in attendance. Secretary, Treasurer and committee chair reports were given. The following upcoming events were announced: Summer Czech Language classes will start on June 3, 2019 at Cracker Barrel in Bryan and the BVCHS Czech Heritage Celebration will be held October 13, 2019 at St. Joseph Catholic Church and Parish Activity Center. Following the business meeting the 2019 scholarship winners were announced by Scholarship Chair, Cheryl Wenck. The outstanding high school seniors receiving a \$500 2019 Novak-Zaeske Scholarship were Dana Kopetsky of College Station and Kirk "KJ" Macik Jr. of Snook. This year BVCHS awarded another scholarship -Matush Czech Heritage Scholarship – sponsored by John and Sandy Matush. This scholarship is presented to a currently enrolled college or trade school student. The recipient of the \$500 2019 Matush Czech Heritage Scholarship was Emily



Hubacek. Emily attends Texas A&M University in College Station. We wish much success to the scholarship recipients in their future endeavors. In honor of the scholarship winners a Scholarship Cake provided by BVCHS was served to all attendees.

### **2019 Novak-Zaeske Memorial Scholarship**



**Dana Kopetsky** is a graduate of College Station High School and is the daughter of Dana and Brad Kopetsky of College Station. Dana will be attending Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey, where she plans to major in Chemical Engineering.



**Kirk "KJ" Macik** is a graduate of Snook High School and is the son of Sharyle and Kirk Macik of Caldwell, Texas. This fall Kirk will attend Texas A&M University and major in Business/Accounting.

### **Matush Czech Heritage Scholarship**



**Emily Hubacek** attends Texas A&M University and is the daughter of Lisa and Richard Hubacek of Bryan. Emily is acquiring a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies.